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84 LIVINGSTON's *Explorations into the Interior of Africa.*

observations. He states that Golungo Alto is about midway between Ambaca and Loanda.

ix. *Aquas doces* at the confluence of the Luinha and Luce in Cazengo.—This station is not more than 10° west of Golungo Alto according to Dr. Livingston.

The resulting longitude is the mean of 2 sets of the observed distance between the Moon and Jupiter, differing 3' from each other, the time being deduced from the altitudes of Jupiter. The watch errors are accordant and no source of error can be traced.

x. Massangano.—The longitude not observed, but “a prominent hill in Cazengo called Tunga is about 6° s.s.w. of *Aquas doces*, and it bears n.e. by e. from the house of the Commandant at Massangano.”

xii. Ambaca, residence of the Commandant of the district.—The longitude from one set observed between the Moon and Aldebaran, and one set between the Moon and Jupiter: the results differing 4'. The time from two altitudes of the Moon and the watch errors accordant. This station is east of Golungo Alto (see above). The correct limb of the Moon has been observed, and no source of error can be traced in the observations.

xiii. Pungo Andongo.—4 sets of distances of the Moon from the Sun were observed here. The first three give accordant results for longitude, the last differs 10'; the time is also well determined from the altitudes of the Sun.

xv. Candumba.—The longitude from one set of measures of distance between the ζ and Aldebaran, and 2 sets between the ζ and Jupiter. The results differ 22'. The time derived from altitudes of the Moon: the greatest difference of watch errors = 6°.5.

xvi. Confluence of the Lombe and Coanza. The longitudes are derived from one set of distance ζ —Aldebaran, and one set ζ —Jupiter. The results differing only 1', and the watch errors 3°.3 from two altitudes of the Moon. Procyon was observed for time, but there appears to be some error in the observation or in transcribing it. This station is 8 or 10 miles east of Candumba, and both are to the east of Pungo Andongo (according to description), whereas the observations place them both to the west of it. In the case of Pungo Andongo, if we were to calculate on the assumption that the *upper* limb of the Sun had been observed, the longitude would become about 15°.0' which is in accordance with the other two positions; but this is inadmissible, as the watch error given by the Moon, whose upper limb must have been observed, agrees nearly with that deduced from the Sun.

At this station the Coanza takes its southern bend to s.e. or s.s.e.

xvii. Sanza.—Longitude from 4 sets of distances \odot — ζ and greatest difference of the results 15'. The watch errors are derived from observations of the Sun, and are accordant.

xviii. Banks of the Quize near its source, 2' west of the sudden descent which forms the valley of the Cassange. Longitude from one set of distances of \odot — ζ . The time from the altitudes of the ζ . The watch errors differ 3°.2.

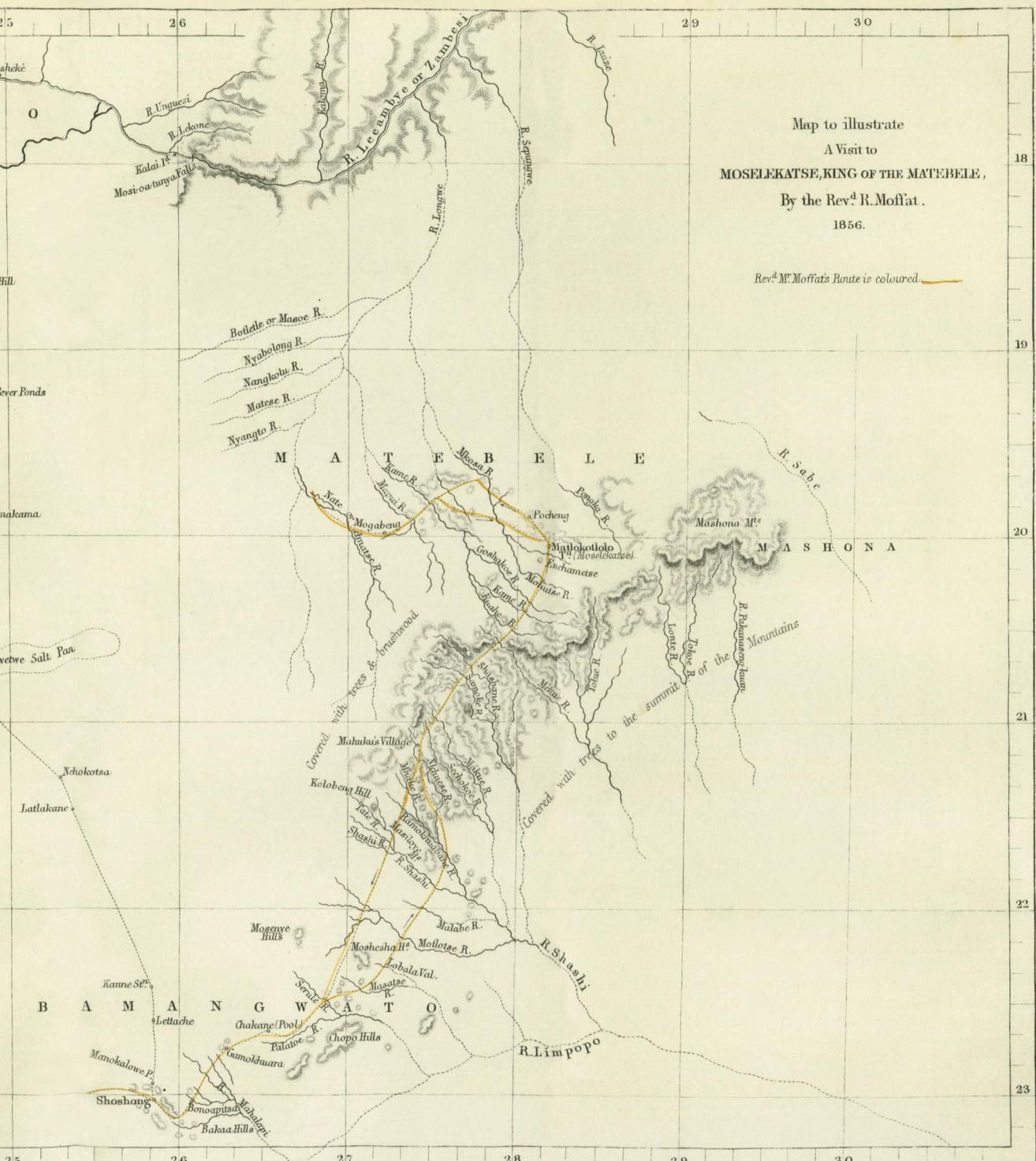
IX.—*Visit to Moselekatse, King of the Matebele.* By the Rev. R. MOFFAT.

Communicated by the LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

[THE health of our honoured Missionary Brother having suffered considerably from his unremitting labours on the Sechuana Scriptures, he undertook an extended journey into the interior, partly for relaxation, but chiefly with a view to renew his acquaintance with the barbarian king of the Matebele, and to obtain his aid in forwarding supplies to Dr. Livingston, then absent on his fourth exploratory tour.

We have just received Mr. Moffat's long-expected journal, comprising the





varied incidents of his visit to Moselekatse's country, situated about 400 miles north-east from the Kuruman; and the singular interest of its details will, we trust, form a sufficient excuse for the unusual length of our extracts.

In his 'Missionary Labours and Scenes in Southern Africa,' Mr. Moffat has given a lively account of two former visits he paid to Moselekatse—first in the latter end of 1829, and again in 1835.]

June 12, 1854.—After spending eight days with Sechele and people, I left his village, in company with Messrs. Chapman and Edwards, whose objects were hunting and trading. We travelled in a northerly direction through a country rather thickly wooded. Some of our number went out on horseback to procure game, but were not successful. All this country, and far to the south, was not long since swarming with elephants, giraffes, rhinoceroses, buffaloes, elks, and many species of antelopes, and one would have thought, from the immense extent of comparatively uninhabited country, that they would have continued to abound for generations to come, but the musket, the rifle, and the fleet steed have made them scarce, and the poor natives have to suffer from this cause.

Lopépe, June 15.—This place is always talked of as a den of lions. It is a valley, at the upper end of which there is a deep hollow covered with reed, along the outsides of which there are deep pits, but at present filled with water, and the oxen can drink without trouble.

June 16.—We, at least some of us, felt thankful for a quiet night. Lions were heard roaring at a distance, but thanks to the "Preserver of men," no evil was permitted to come near us. Started early, halted awhile at midday, clouds few and distant, sand hot, road heavy. The Bamanguato mountains nearly east, but we must take this circuitous course to obtain water.

June 18.—Enjoyed an undisturbed Sabbath in the desert, for a desert it is, being the eastern verge of the great Kalahari. When the waggons stand we have to walk about to the ankles in fine white sand, which extends in all directions. This part of the country wears a dreary aspect, not a living creature to be seen except a few crows, and, towards evening, flocks of doves and wild pigeons coming to drink. I also observed at a distance a "mogolego," the adjutant of the East Indies, a place, one would think, not in keeping with his rapacious habits.

June 19.—We left soon after midnight, and halted again at 8 A.M. On passing through the first range of the Bamanguato hills the scenery became much finer. After crossing these we passed over a level plain of about 7 m., covered with bushes, a few trees, and thick grass. We then passed through extensive fields of native grain, much still remaining unreaped. We halted a little way out of the town before sunset. The town extends for miles along the

base of a range of mountains, stretching from E.S.E. to W.N.W. ; they appear black and sterile, and scantily covered with trees and grass. Here we met with three traders, and also Sehunéloe, one of our Kuruman members, who had, previous to his settling among the Bahurutse at Mosega, as an assistant in the mission work, come here on a visit. We soon had a swarm of natives around us. As they had heard of our approach, and had seen my fellow-travellers before, I was set down for the veritable Moffat, of whom they had long heard. They stared at me inquisitively, some asking, "Is it he?" while others answered, "It is himself—salute him." Among other curious salutations, I heard some in broken Dutch, call out, "Good evening—morning." On observing our people fastening the dogs to the waggons as soon as the oxen were unyoked, I inquired the cause, and found that the Bamanguato were shameless thieves, of dogs not excepted, from the chief to the beggar.

I sent to convey my respects to his most uninviting majesty Sekhomi, with a message that my heart was grieved to find that all Livingston's letters and papers were still here, though Sekhomi had promised to forward them half-way to Linyanti, where was a person waiting to convey them to Livingston. From all I have heard of Sekhomi, he has not only a forbidding appearance, but is the very personification of greediness, selfishness, impudence, tyranny, and deceit. Of course I shall treat him with all due respect.

June 20.—Shoshong (Sekhomi's Town). This morning, at an early hour, Sekhomi, who had been often heard to say that he would not give up the letters and papers until Livingston himself should come with a large reward, sent down the parcels, the very sight of which grieved me. Most of them ought to have been sent a twelvemonth ago. Soon after a number of men presented themselves before my waggon, and a rather insignificant person saluted me, to which I answered by remarking that I was going to see the chief. He laughed, and added, "I am Sekhomi!" I remarked that he was beforehand with me, as it was my duty to wait on him as my superior, according to custom. He admitted this with something like a smile, but appeared quite at a loss to know what to say. He felt he had got into a difficulty and lost my esteem (if ever I had any for him), by not forwarding Livingston's parcels, for which he knew well he would be rewarded. He tried to get out a sentence or two in palliation of his ungrateful conduct to Livingston, who, I knew, had been kind to him, but made such a bungling excuse, that I recommended him to confess at once that he had behaved badly, and I should then hope he would improve some day. I tried to convince him how sorry I was, but he only laughed, and tried to divert my thoughts

from the subject, by telling me how glad he was to see me. 'The subject of Christian instruction was introduced, and its importance enlarged upon, but it proved most unwelcome.

The Bamanguato, in general, seem to have a high opinion of the Kuruman. I have met with several who have been in service at that station, and they have returned with a good report. Two only among the many thousands of the Bamanguato know the alphabet. They are, indeed, dark and ignorant; nor can it be wondered at that they are so rude and rough in their manners, when it is remembered that they have, during the present generation, been continually driven to and fro, scattered and peeled.

June 21.—It being hopeless at the present time to get either Sekhomi or his people to listen to instruction, we left in the afternoon, and, after travelling nearly 9 m. through gardens, we halted at the end of the mountains where the Bakaa tribe formerly lived, and where, though the owners of the country, they were terribly harassed by the Bamanguato. After these, who were more numerous, came from the north and took possession, Sekhomi did everything in his power to annoy the Bakaas, who were always reported to be a peaceable people. They at last abandoned their native hills, and, encouraged by Sechéle, fled to the Bakuanas, where they now live in comparative peace.

June 22.—After coffee we started again in a north-easterly direction, over a bushy country, threading our way like serpents among grass, without the smallest track of a road of any kind, and through very long grass. After some 8 m. travelling in this way we reached Mahalapi river, which runs into the Limpopo. It presented a perfectly level bed of granitic sand 67 yards wide; though no water appeared where we crossed, on the surface, there was abundance below. During the rainy season it must have a fine appearance, though perhaps it would be almost impossible to cross with waggons. Leaving the north bank some hundred yards we made a secure fold for our oxen.

June 24.—From the top of a small hill, near us, sufficiently large to enable one to look over the trees in the plain below, I took a survey of the country beyond, but could see no smoke rising in any quarter to indicate the abode of human beings. From hearsay our course from this must be nearly east in order to get water. In the same direction considerable hills are seen terminating at or near the Limpopo. These are infested with the Tsétse; of course we shall give them a wide berth. From the Bamanguato hills, till near this place, we have been riding over a granite foundation, in some places jutting out in large blocks or boulders, and at other places in broad, bare masses, and sometimes with a thin sprinkling of sand and grass; but in many places the soil, though more or less granitic, is deep and rich, covered with a

luxuriance of bushes and grass. Plants and shrubs, which are dwarfish at the Kuruman, are stately in these quarters. Here we again meet with coarse-grained sandstone quartz, and some fine, large specimens of pudding-stone.

June 25.—Hyenas and jackals kept our dogs busy during the night, but we enjoyed a peaceful Sabbath in the silence of the desert.

June 27.—Yesterday morning we started at 8 A.M., and groped our way through thickets and high grass, but the ground was so hard that the waggon-wheels made no impression, nor would our track be discovered except by the grass being pressed down. However we persevered, though not without considerable toil, and we shall persevere, notwithstanding Sekhomi's vain hopes that we shall be lost without guides. The Chopo hills, where the Tsétse abound, lie only a few miles to our right, where anything like oxen and dogs cannot exist. These hills are said to abound in copper and iron ores.

June 29.—On Wednesday night we halted for a short time at a river, which we afterwards learned was the Serule, literally, “do not sit or remain,” and it appeared to deserve the name, for, independent of the water being very brack, the shores indicated that it was the abode of lions, rhinoceroses, and other game. Having allowed our oxen just time to drink, we went out some miles from the valley to pass the night, which we did with more comfort than we had anticipated. Mr. Edwards also obtained a supply of game. To-day we entered amidst a number of high hills, the first we had met with since we left the Bamanguato. We saw a small village of poor people under a neighbouring hill. Some of the men, on observing the waggons, came, and as we thought, kindly put us in the right direction, but which afterwards proved too far east. They told us that Sekhomi had sent word that no one should direct us to where Moselekatse lived. Poor fellows! as they appeared willing to serve us, they got over the difficulty by stating, that if we went in that direction we should reach the Shashe river, which was the same thing. Mr. Edwards very kindly shot a giraffe and a quagga for these hungry children of the desert. They looked very thin, and miserably clad. Pursuing our course we came at sunset to a small village, pointed out to us by those we had passed. They lived by the bed of a small periodical stream, where we found no water for our oxen. They had a few patches of garden ground which they had harvested, and which enabled Mr. Edwards to purchase some grain for the horses. About fifteen of the inhabitants came with their children to see our waggons, all miserably poor, but very willing to serve us for a few beads. With our guides we left the following morning, and, before proceeding far, we passed one of the gigantic moana trees, which may be termed

the forest king, and, when in foliage, must resemble an enormous cabbage on a very thick stalk. The height from the ground to the first branches was about 20 ft., with a circumference of 36. I have heard of some double this size. It is so soft that a knife may be pushed into the trunk with little difficulty. At noon we were thankful to meet with water in the Lobala valley. Soon after starting Mr. Edwards shot a quagga, which made our new friends look sprightly. As usual, we halted in time to cut down thorn trees to make a fold. This, though hard, being the work of every day, Sabbath excepted, we think nothing of it, having good axes—valuable articles on a journey like the present.

On the 1st July we reached Motlotse river, which, like all the others we have passed, runs into the Limpopo, when it does run, but at present it is only a bed of sand 60 yards wide.

July 4.—Shashe river. We had yesterday to cut nearly our whole course of 14 m. to get to Malabe valley, which, like most others, gets the name of river; and, starting again this morning, we proceeded, and after again cutting down many trees and rolling fallen ones out of our way, we, in a few hours, reached the Shashe river, so long looked for. The descent was steep, stony, and difficult, and the bed, as is usual with all rivers in this part of the country, about 80 yards wide, of deep granitic sand. Nearly all the rivers we have passed, as well as many northward, fall into this river before it joins the Limpopo. Passed to-day some small hills of granite. On the banks of the river we met with mountain limestone, and in the bed of the river large masses of opaque quartz rock. After 13 m. tugging, over rather heavy ground, we came to the banks of the Ramokhuabane, along which we had been travelling for several miles. It was alarming to look down into its deep sandy bed, 300 yards wide, through which our waggons must be dragged. Our oxen having had a hard pull, they were unyoked to drink and graze a couple of hours, after which we succeeded in ploughing through the sand, into which the wheels sometimes sunk to the naves. Our waggons have had hundreds of hairbreadth escapes, but all went well till to-day. As Mr. Edwards's waggon was passing among the same large trunks of the mimosa tree, the hinder wheel caught in one of them and wrenched off the arm, so that we shall have to remain here over to-morrow to put in a new axle-tree.

July 8.—The country having now become undulating and hilly it was evident that our course would be proportionally difficult, which we were soon made to feel. We had not proceeded far before we became completely bewildered among hills and deep gullies, the banks of a sandy river in front being impassable. After some hard twisting and turning we changed our course, and by running to the tops of hills to look beyond, and the aid of the

compass, we crossed the river, and found better ground for travelling. At sunset our progress was arrested by a deep rocky ravine, at the bottom of which were large pools and a running stream.

July 9.—We spent as quiet a Sabbath as could well be conceived.

July 10.—After examining the course, in order to avoid the road by which we entered, we made the best of our way w.n.w. through some truncated hills. After travelling in this way for some miles we turned n.e. into another opening in the hills. We had not proceeded far when footpaths were seen, and soon after voices were heard of persons, who, supposing us to be Boers, were making their escape into a rocky defile. As Mr. Edwards and another were on horseback they intercepted some of them ; these mountaineers were desperately afraid till they heard who we were. They proved to be some of a number of Bamanguato, who were here when Moselekatse conquered the country, and have continued to be his subjects. We got two of them to guide our waggons to a neighbouring village of the same people, where they said were some cattle, and an officer belonging to Moselekatse. With grateful hearts we saw that all was right, and much sooner than we yesterday anticipated. After advancing several miles we were met by a company of the same people, who requested us to halt till they should communicate with a chief man at a village about 5 m. beyond. To their inquiries as to what they were to say to the chief man, they were told that I was Moffat, or Moshéte, as they pronounced it, of the Kuruman. Though no one of the scores who were standing round had seen me, they appeared quite familiar with the name, and all knew that their sovereign was anxious to see me. The messenger must have been a swift one, as the Letebele made his appearance in an hour and a half with several attendants. He saluted with rather an awkward, but hearty shake of the hand. He assured me, again and again, of the delight Moselekatse would have on hearing of my long looked-for arrival. On mentioning the names of some Matebele I knew, and inquiring about their welfare, he snapped his fingers apparently with great satisfaction, as this was an additional proof that I was the veritable Moffat, for, as I afterwards learned, if he had taken a counterfeit Moffat to his master, his days would have been numbered in a few seconds. He said he would send messengers to head-quarters to request that persons should be sent who knew me ; that he had seen me when he was a boy, but I had then a long black beard. We started again for the village where he was residing pro tempore to collect taxes, which we reached the same evening.

July 11.—Mr. Edwards and I took our guns and walked out to the woody heights and cornfields lately harvested, to seek pheasants

and guinea-fowls. We were struck with the beauty and fertility of the country. We also found hundreds of acres of new ground prepared for next year's sowing. The trees were hewn down and the branches laid round the bottom of the trunk to be burned when sufficiently dry. The ground is all made up in ridges about 15 in. high, and from 4 to 6 ft. apart, so as to allow the water to run off. The grain is sown on the tops of the ridges, where it appears to grow luxuriantly. The whole country, as far as the eye can reach, is very mountainous, and these mostly isolated, and frequently composed of enormous blocks and boulders. Blocks may be seen 30 or 40 ft., standing on one end on the top, and sometimes on the brow of hills, which the slightest touch of an earthquake would bring thundering down hundreds of feet. Though these mountains are rugged, they look fine, being partially or nearly wholly covered with trees, many of which are evergreens, or in leaf nearly the whole year. Trees may be seen, chiefly of the *ficus* tribe, growing on the solid granite rock, and with trunks running up perpendicular walls of great height, and adhering so close to the rock, and being of the same colour, it requires a near approach to convince one that they are not parts of the rock itself. A fine field for the botanist as well as the geologist! I saw some trees and shrubs entirely new to me, but, not being in flower at the time, could not tell to what genus they belonged. Granite of various grain predominates; indeed the foundations of the whole country appear to be granite, with enormous blocks of quartz, which is also found filling up large rents and furrows in the solid rock; also slaty gneiss and pieces of basalt in the bottoms of rivers, as if washed down from higher places. It would appear as if grain might be cultivated anywhere, even at the tops of hills, where the soil is frequently very rich. Though rain has not fallen for months I found some places quite damp, and the débris of the granite hills and the sand afford an easy passage for the water to the numberless small rivers, so that the water is, except during the rainy season, undergoing a constant filtration. In the evening two Matebele women came down from the village to see the friend of their chief. They are altogether different in their dress to that of the other tribes. On asking if they knew me, they said, "We know your size, your nose, and your eyes, but what has become of the long black beard?" they inquired. I found that these two respectable-looking matrons, and two others, had been charged with bewitching at head-quarters, and were banished to this distant outpost. This, to say the least, is a merciful punishment for the Matebelian tyrant.

July 14.—Having got in readiness we started again with a company of Bamanguato, who were to be our guides and assistants

under one who is their chief, called Mapongko (words or news), and, being as familiar with the Letebele language as his own, he will serve as an interpreter. After having passed through a picturesque country—fine water and abundance of pasture—we halted at what is called the M'akue river, having travelled 18 m. in 9 hours, with frequent hindrances from cutting down trees and seeking roads across ravines. Last night slept near some large masses of granite, near a range of pools; the night cold, with heavy dew, although the atmosphere appeared dry during the day. The country exceedingly picturesque. Mountains and trees numberless as their shapes. Wherever the eye is directed nothing but hills on hills rise in endless succession; nearly all are covered with enormous granite blocks and trees, though, to a superficial observer, there appears to be scarcely any soil. We also passed hills, some not less than 6 m. in circumference, exactly resembling the half or third part of a perfect sphere above the ground, solid granite, and, to the eye, as smooth as an orange, without a single tuft of grass or loose pebble on the whole surface. Having scrambled part way up such granite globes it appeared to me that not a particle, not even grains of sand had laid on them since washed by the waters of the flood. The alluvial deposits accumulated in the valleys between these hills are exceedingly rich, and send forth luxuriant brushwood and grass. Sometimes the granite crops out in large flat masses, and having been washed by the rains of some thousand summers, these are employed as threshing-floors, being in the vicinity of gardens. Blocks rising above trees, on the tops of hills, might, without much effort of the imagination, be taken for ancient castles, surrounded with broken ramparts. I examined a single block near to where we passed, on an entirely level surface of rich soil. It exhibited a perpendicular face of 50 by 40 ft., smooth as if it had been chiseled, and looked as if intended for a base to some stupendous monument. Among the débris of the surrounding hills are large quantities of quartz, blue stone, mica slate. It is very evident, from the appearance of these mountains, that there have been no earthquakes here since a very remote period, or otherwise thousands of boulders of great magnitude would have been hurled from the dizzy heights, where they seem to tremble with a breath of air.

Besides minor streams we have to-day passed the M'akue and Samokoue rivers, all containing plenty of pure water; and we are now bivouacked on the Shashane, or, literally, Little Shashe river, where the grass is so rank and tall, that it is not without great risk of setting the camp in a blaze, that we can make a fire.

July 19.—Last night, when about retiring to rest, two messengers from Moselekatse arrived, who had left yesterday morning, and had travelled most of the night. The principal one delivered

the message with great animation, and with many extravagant expressions about the delight the news of my arrival had imparted to the sovereign. Observing him to be evidently much fatigued with his run, I remarked that, instead of starting early to-morrow, we should defer till the afternoon following, that he might rest. To this he would on no account agree, adding, "No rest for me. I want none till I see you in the presence of Moselekatse." We accordingly started early, and, after much winding, got through a range of high precipitous hills. All the rivers we passed, since leaving the Banguaketse, run to the E. and E.S.E. We have passed to-day rivers which all flow to the N.N.W., while farther to the right there are still tributary streams going to the Limpopo. We are thus travelling along the backbone, or highest place of this part of Africa, between 27° and 29° E. long. All the rivers to the N.W. turn N. and fall into the Zambesi.

After passing over what appeared the higher part of the country, from the rivers running N.W. and S.E., it became more open and undulating, with a few solitary hills of granite.

July 21.—Taking leave of our wondering friends, who followed our waggons for a couple of miles, we travelled with more ease, and passed three rivers, which, though not flowing, contained numberless pools of fine water. We descended considerably to-day, and the country from N.W. to nearly E. lay before us like an extended woody plain, with some distant heights, but no mountains. Ever since entering the tropics we have had the trade-wind blowing daily from the E., or nearly so; and this being the season to burn the grass, the smoke may be seen resembling an extended, dense thunder-cloud on the western horizon, behind which the sun descends in darkness. Before halting we were met by men sent by Moselekatse with a message that we should beat the oxen and hasten our arrival.

July 22.—Last night, after having all got fast asleep, a man arrived from the town with an ox to be slaughtered. The native idea was, that we must kill and eat the whole night, and start on the coming morn. It was kindly intended, but not according to our way of doing things. On we went, and as we passed some towns, out rushed men and women to see us. It was a favourable opportunity; for no one dares come to head-quarters, except on special business, so they made the best of the time they had. Early in the forenoon, as we approached the royal residence, we met men with shields and spears coming in succession to inform us of the king's happiness at our arrival. We, as a matter of course, expected to see some such display as I had witnessed on my former visits. Being considerably in advance of the waggons we entered the large public fold, and, following a chief man, were led to the opposite side, where sat in different parties about 60 chief men.

The town appeared new, or rather half finished. There was nothing like the finish I had seen before in regal towns. We stood for some minutes at a doorway in the fence, which seemed to lead to premises behind, where some kind of preparations were going on. While our attention was directed to the waggons, Moselekatse had been moved to the entrance where we were standing. On turning round there he sat on a kaross, but how changed! The vigorous and active monarch of the Matebele, now aged, lame in the feet, incapable of standing, or even moving himself along the floor. I entered, and he grasped my hand, gave me an impressive look, drew his mantle over his eyes, and wept. Some time elapsed before he could even speak or look at me. In the meantime Mr. Edwards, who had gone to direct the waggons, came up, little expecting to see the hero of so many battles, and the conquering tyrant of so many tribes, bathed in tears, which he endeavoured in vain to hide, probably from some of his wives who stood behind him, and his nobles who stood waiting in silence without. After some minutes spent in this way he repeated my name several times, adding, "Surely I am only dreaming that you are Moffat." I remarked that God, whom I served, had spared us both, and that I had come once more to see him before I die, and, though very sorry to see him so ill, I was thankful to God that we were permitted to meet again. He pointed to his feet, which I had observed to be dropsical, and said that they, as well as other parts of his body, were *killing* him, adding, "Your God has sent you to help me, and heal me."

July 22.—He continued the rest of the day watching all our motions with apparent pleasure. Towards evening I sent him two chairs, with which he was greatly pleased.

July 23.—After a rather short night's rest, disturbed by thoughts to which my present situation and duties gave rise, I awoke, with considerable pain in my right knee, which was much swollen and inflamed. It increased so rapidly that I soon found difficulty in walking. Having prepared some medicine for the chief, I was obliged to take it to him myself, as he can trust no one, not even one of his many wives, for fear of being poisoned. He expressed great concern about my knee, and, as is usual among all the tribes in this country, said it was sure to get better. In the evening Moselekatse sent a number of large calabashes of native beer. I sent word that though I felt thankful for his kindness, he must remember that I do not take beer, and I would much prefer a little milk. He said he knew I did not drink it, but it was intended for my fellow-travellers and company, and that orders had already been given that milk should be supplied.

July 24.—We saw William, the captive Griqua, who with his cousin Troi, the Griqua maid, was taken by the Matebele on the

Vaal River, more than 20 years ago. He could scarcely make himself understood in his own, the Dutch, language. He speaks the Letebele, or Zulu tongue, with great fluency, is dressed like all the rest, and his sovereign has honoured him with a ring on a shaven head, and is thus an *eutona*, or chief man, and allowed to have a wife. He has the charge or government of two towns, and is a centurion, having the command of 100 machaha, or warriors, and, from all I could learn, is one in whom his chief places great confidence. It was rather curious to see a Griqua, in whom the Hottentot features predominate, in the dress of the Matebele. He appeared simple and good natured, and informed us that Troi, his cousin, who lived at a neighbouring town, was here yesterday, but dared not approach the waggons. He said Moselekatse was very good and kind to him, but, heaving a sigh, added, "My heart still desires to return to my native country and friends." Here vassalage marks the motions of every mortal but the monarch, not even excepting his own sons and daughters. When any approach, they stoop, and, in passing within sight of the despot, must address him by one or more of his titles.

Mr. Edwards sent his majesty a present, in the shape of a large tartan shawl, pieces of print, calico, and a canister containing a large quantity of superior beads, which were acknowledged with many thanks, and presently afterwards they were sent to my waggon, which he makes his storehouse. Can he not trust his own people?

July 26.—In the evening we were rather taken by surprise to see his sable majesty walk out alone to our waggons. Medicine and regimen had done him good. He was received by his subjects with shouts of congratulations.

July 27, Saturday.—Nearly the whole day reading and correcting some typographical errors, and altering some words in the translation for the sake of uniformity, my knee preventing me from moving about. The wind cold and disagreeable; the trade-wind, as usual, with thick misty clouds and sand, sweeping over our heads. When the natives were asked if it would not rain, they laughed, and said, "Who ever saw rain during the winter months?" They appear no more to expect this than that the wind should blow from the west any part of the year.

Moselekatse's dominion extends from the Shashe River on the south to the Zambesi on the north, and all the numerous canoes and boatmen on the southern bank acknowledge his authority. On account of the tsétsé, or fly, much of the country towards the Zambesi cannot possibly be occupied with cattle; they are swept off immediately by that small but overwhelming insect. The scattered inhabitants have abundance of game, and are able to keep sheep and goats, which do not suffer; it is remarkable that this should be

the case, for though their hair or wool is thicker than other animals, there are vulnerable parts, which the tsétse can easily reach ; dogs immediately fall victims.

This morning I said to my interpreter, and to another who might be called the king's aide-de-camp, that I wished to convey to Moselekatse all my plans, and what I wished to accomplish during my stay. When I mentioned Linyanti, and that, as I had goods, &c., for Livingston, I intended to go thither, or as near the Makololo as I could, in order to forward his supplies, the proposal seemed to operate on them like an electric shock, and they supplicated me most humbly, for the sake of their lives, not to send them to their master with such a message ; that I must on no account whisper such a thing—the king must first see me for a month or two to come. The day has been so windy, cold, and damp, his majesty has kept within doors, and one or two, who may be considered sheriffs, being absent, some women from the harem, and others who had brought beer, &c., to the town, took the favourable opportunity of drawing near to have a look at me. Though cold, they had nothing like dress on the upper part of their bodies, and, according to the Matebele custom, very little anywhere else. They appeared very cheerful and happy, most of them with arms over each other's necks. They acted with great decorum, and when they retired they said they were glad I had come, and were thankful for the opportunity of seeing me. By far the greater part of his people are not pure Matebele, but from the tribes whom he had subjugated during his long career.

August 2.—Moselekatse never fails, now that he is able to walk, to visit our waggons, and never fails giving Mr. E. and me a shake of the hand as he passes to and fro, with the accompaniment of a *Kia ituméla* (I am glad). His cheerfulness increases with returning health. From the Mashona, whom I have seen, I should infer that they were more industrious, and of course more civilized, than the Matebele. They formerly occupied all the country about Matlokotloko, the present residence of Moselekatse. Their country, or rather their mountains, commence about four days' journey east of this. Thither they fled before the conquering bands of the Matebele. They possess a few cattle of a very dwarfish description ; their sheep and goats are also smaller than the usual size. Among the latter I observed a number of the Angora goat, most of them being white, and their long soft hair, covering their entire bodies to the ground, made them look like animals moving along without feet.

The Mashona have more or less intercourse with the Portuguese, or tribes contiguous, for they barter from that quarter coarse cottons, though they themselves make garments of cotton of a very coarse texture. I also saw among them two musical instruments, con-

sisting of about forty notes, composed of as many strips of iron fastened to a small board within a large calabash, into the opening of which the two hands are introduced, playing in the same manner as one would on the pianoforte. The instrument exhibits considerable ingenuity, and, for a people so barbarous, is a successful one. Their dress, though rude enough, is much more decent than that of the Matebele, and indeed they seem to be an entirely different people. Their language is the same as the Makalaka tribe, of which, though a branch of the Sechuana, I could understand but little. The Mashona say their fathers emigrated from the south-east, beyond the land of the Baraputsi. Some of their customs are peculiar, different from any other tribe I know.

August 4.—Had some conversation with Moselekatse, and tried to make him understand that the world moved, and not the sun; that the earth was a globe, and not a flat; that people could go round and round, and, were a hole pierced through its centre to the other side, he would find people on what would also appear to him a plain or sea. He looked rather bewildered at these facts, for he had no idea that I was deliberately telling falsehoods. I described to him the speed with which waggons travelled in England, and ships on the sea; but it seemed like multiplying words to no purpose, as it was far above his conception. He, however, freely admitted the superior wisdom of the white man, which afforded me an excellent text to explain to him the process by which the Maengelise, as he calls them, have reached their present state of refinement and wisdom.

August 5—Had a long conversation with Moselekatse to-day. I had before handed to him some tin vessels I had made, which he admired, and no doubt viewed me as a perfect genius of a tinker. I had before conversed with him about Livingston, and now stated plainly that it was my purpose to go to Sekeletu's country, or as near it as I could get, in order to hear if he had returned from the journey to the west coast, and to convey goods and letters I had brought for him. This resolution was to him like a dose of assafoetida; he replied that he was my son, and I must not leave him, especially as he was sick—that there was no one, even among his own people, whom he loved and confided in like myself, and he could not give his consent to my undertaking such a journey. He then began to number up bugbears, with the hope of frightening me: the fevers which pervaded all the rivers and swamps through which I must pass—crocodiles, and savage hordes. Putting on a very grave face, I said, “Moselekatse, Livingston is my child, and he is a servant of God; if I return without seeing him, or hearing certainly about him, I shall return with a heavy heart, and tell my friends Moselekatse does not love me.” I added, that if he had any fears of my perishing on the road, I should leave a letter, which

he could send to the Kuruman, which would tell Mamele, as he called Mrs. Moffat, that it was entirely my own fault.

August 6, Sabbath.—Moselekatse, either sick or feigning to be so, did not make his appearance the whole day. Moselekatse knows, and some of his people know, that where the Gospel has been received, there is liberty of speech and action, and that where it prevails, it will oppose tyranny and despotism.

August 16.—Two young girls, about ten years of age, daughters of Moselekatse, of different mothers, came from a neighbouring town to see him, or rather me. He kissed each of them on the brow and then on each cheek. I observed others kiss them on each cheek, the brow, and chin. This seems to be the mode of Matebele kissing; it is done by men, too, when they meet after a long absence. The girls seemed the very picture of health; though they drank beer daily, their countenances exhibited great childish sweetness, while their bodies, well washed and anointed with oil, presented the most perfect female symmetry; but the women in general are no beauties.

August 18.—Moselekatse said, that as he had sent men to inquire respecting the road, and as they would go till they could learn something about Livingston, he would wish me to defer my journey till they had returned. Supposing this to be a plan, like others, to prolong my stay, I could not agree, especially as the hot weather would soon commence, and the rainy season in the month of October, which would render travelling in a country like this next to impossible. He showed me a number of elephants' tusks, which he said he intended to present to me as a token of the gratitude he felt for the kindness he had received from me since he first knew me. I replied, that though I could fully appreciate his kind intentions, I felt I could not accept of anything of the kind till I should have accomplished my purpose in getting Livingston's goods, &c., conveyed to him, and, if it were possible, seeing him myself. I added, that if he aided me in this undertaking, I should esteem his help more valuable than his present, and that I should be more ready to make him a present than to receive one, and then I should return to the Kuruman rich without a single tusk. These remarks made him look unusually grave, and, after a pause, he said, "Verily you love Livingston, and you love me too;" and, taking me by the hand, said, "You shall go." I snapped my fingers in Matebelian fashion, and thanked him with all my heart.

August 22.—This morning, when about to start in search of Livingston, Moselekatse got into my waggon, followed by some parcels of presents which he had received from one and another, and were deposited within. He sat down very composedly, and requested that the waggons might start. I supposed he was intending to go only to the next town, as he was followed by

most of the men, some of them rather too advanced in years to proceed far. Bidding adieu to my kind-hearted fellow-traveller—who would have been happy to accompany me, but, being in partnership with Mr. Chapman, felt it his duty to remain a while longer—away we went, with about 100 men and nearly half that number of dogs, large and small. Passing the first town without halting, we came to a pass between two hills, commanding a beautiful and rather extensive view. Here we halted under an ancient sycamore till the chief's own waggon, which he had sent for, should arrive. To my surprise the waggon no sooner arrived, than he requested that we should proceed to where there were bushes and firewood. On its joining us we again set off—his sable majesty keeping possession of my bed or stretcher, which, by its creaking, gave token that it had got an unusual load. After winding through considerable thickets along the base of hills, we descended into a pretty valley, where was every requisite for a comfortable bivouac. During the last two hours we have been followed by some carrying carouses, others food, and about twenty women with large calabashes of beer on their heads. Moselekatse's waggon being placed alongside of mine, the people then, as at every halting-place during the journey, commenced hewing and tearing down branches from trees, principally evergreens. Of these, very commodious booths were formed in all directions, leaving an open space in the centre for the cattle to sleep in. On the left of my waggon is a booth for my four men, in which Moselekatse chooses to sleep, and not in his waggon, or among his own people. To the right of my waggon is what may be called a royal pavilion of evergreens, where he sometimes sits, and his personal attendants repose. Immediately in front of my waggon is another large circular fence, where there are about nine of his wives, and twenty other women—beer-carriers. Several large companies occupy other portions of the encampment, which, lighted up by the blazing fires, presents an animated spectacle. Before dark a troop of fat cattle were brought, of which two were slaughtered, and strips of meat now garnish the live coals at every fireplace; and if human masticators are busy, tongues are performing their part to some purpose, which never seems to incommodate the sovereign of all, who walks about evidently much pleased.

August 25.—This morning the camp was early on the march, and about noon we halted at a fountain called Pocheng. The country undulating, and scenery fine. Experienced some difficulty in getting over deep gullies, washed out by periodical torrents, laying bare sandstone and slate, while some of the neighbouring hills seemed to be composed of quartz, sandstone, and, when they were flat, covered with rich soil. We passed over

some miles of black deep ground, everywhere covered with cracks, some of them of great depth, and the whole scattered over with round stones about the size of a man's head, which made the ride most uncomfortable. Moselekatse, though sitting on a cushion, did not relish it till I told him that it was good for his health. Of course his doctors had never prescribed such a regimen. This evening the wind became very strong, which is frequently the case in this country, and though the earth is as iron, no rain having fallen during the winter, everything in the morning is wet with dew.

August 26.—After leaving Pocheng we passed some fine scenery, where elephants had been roving about a short time before, though, during the winter, they generally retire northward to the Tsétse country, where there are said to be immense herds. After a rather long and laborious ride, for the day was warm, we halted at 3 p.m. at a small rivulet which falls into the Mkosa river. All were immediately crashing among the trees to raise sheds for the night. Moselekatse came and joined me at a cup of coffee. He appeared in a very talkative mood, referred to the Boers as a barrier to his visiting the Kuruman; that he would consider it the happiest event in his life if he could but visit it.

August 28.—Moselekatse, during the day, sat a considerable time on my bed (his usual place) with his back to the front of the waggon. The country rather more open, with level valleys, which, during the summer rains, must be swamps productive of malaria.

September 1.—Having rested yesterday, and all having feasted, we crossed the river Kame, and proceeded in a south-westerly direction. The road, at least most of it, lay along a descent from heights to the left, over hollows and gullies, the worst we had seen. They consisted of masses of black basalt, covered over with quartz, of almost every colour and of all sizes. They looked as if some hill had been smashed to atoms and scattered regularly over the black surface, on which herbage was thin and trees spare and stunted. Everything like dust or soil had been for ages washed down towards the river. The road for a great distance was so sharp that our oxen could with great difficulty creep along. After crossing the ridge we passed over a flat country, which, during the summer rains, would be impassable for travellers with a waggon. We reached the Mapuui river, the bed of which was 60 yards wide, covered with granitic sand, and which must come from the country over which I travelled, from the Shashe river to Matlokot-loko river. The Kame river takes its rise south-east a little beyond that place, where there is no granite, and therefore the entire absence of sand in its bed. We were met by some thirty women carrying calabashes of beer from a distance of 12 and 14 miles. A light rain compelled every one to seek shelter, and

during the night it was sweet to listen to the notes of the turtle-dove, which abounds here, and from which, doubtless, the river Mapuï derives its name.

September 3.—Our chief spent most of the day on the brow of a height behind our waggons ; he appeared to be holding council. He sat alone in the middle, while about fifteen of his men sat at the distance of 2 yards to the right and left.

September 4.—Engaged from morning till 9 o'clock P.M. putting a new axle-tree to the waggon ; never rested a minute till it was on its legs again. The iron-work was no easy matter—heating it in a common fire, and hammering it on a stone. I would have given anything for a small portable smith's bellows, which travellers in a country like this ought to have. Having drunk nothing but sour milk during the day, Moselekatse sent me, on hearing the work was finished, a made-up dish of entrails, &c., swimming in fat, telling me to eat heartily as I had been working hard. Leaving these delicacies to others, I enjoyed a cup of tea.

September 5.—A very windy, cold day, with a little rain, driving every one to the fire and to shelter. More oxen than usual have been slaughtered. Beef is the standing dish, with sometimes additions of mutton and goat, stewed pumpkin and maize ; the last, though boiled, requires hard mastication, as it is neither pounded nor ground.

Though we have been descending ever since we left Matlokot-loko, we seem to be approaching a drier country ; the soil lighter and more sandy, though the extensive valleys appear subject to being flooded during summer rains. On this account the higher ground is selected for the sites of towns and cattle outposts. The sandy bed of the river contains abundance of water where we are ; but at this season it is lost at no great distance in the many branches into which the river divides. In many places, on higher levels, over which we passed during the last two days, limestone was seen attached to the roots of the trees, which roots had been torn up by elephants. The country here appears to be their summer pasture-ground. When they come in contact with gardens they make terrible havoc, notwithstanding the endeavours to drive them away. This is the country for the larger game. The elephant, giraffe, rhinoceros, elk, and buffalo abound here, and still more towards the north. Between this and the Zambesi there must be enormous herds. The luxuriance of everything in this country, for hundreds of miles round, would authorise any one to believe it capable of supporting an inconceivable number of such quadrupeds, and human inhabitants too, even were they increased one hundredfold.

September 7.—The summer has appeared these two days to be advancing with rapid strides. The sun to-day was burning hot,

and the tall thick grass having been lately swept off by fire there is scarcely a blade left for the poor oxen. These sweeping fires, which, if the wind be strong, pass through the country with fearful velocity, must necessarily destroy millions of insects, which accounts for their scarcity. The same may be said of birds; for such is the vehemence and height of the flames in many places that the tallest evergreens and other forest trees are scorched to their very tops. Occasionally the remains of a large species of tortoise are found, and more rarely those of the serpent, which can more readily escape from the fiery storm. The river, which we left this forenoon, we again approached about sunset. Where we crossed it was 150 yards wide, and consisted of deep sand, besides a heavy bank of the same on the other side. Being the only place where the descent was easy, we made the attempt to plough across; wheels immersed 18 inches. My waggon had no sooner reached the sand than it became a fixture. It was in vain to try and force the oxen to pull it a single yard. Moselekatse, who as usual sat in the waggon, on seeing this, gave orders to unyoke the oxen and call the soldiers, who instantly laid down their shields, and, as many as could, laid hold of the yokes, and away they went with a song, the waggon ploughing the deep sand, while Moselekatse sat enjoying the fun, and calling out *reke* in imitation of the Dutch word *trek* (pull). When they came to the opposite sand-bank I felt sure the waggon would stand. They only halted a minute to breathe, when up they went, and then ran off to the shelter of some trees. They then returned and brought the other waggon to the same place. While looking at the achievement, it occurred to me that it would be rather a striking picture to see a number of nearly naked savages dragging a missionary's waggon through a broad river—not of water, but of sand. As usual, booths were raised and cattle slaughtered, while strings of women overtook us, whom we had left at some cattle outposts behind.

September 9.—After passing half the night meditating plans, I got up and found our governor in excellent spirits. When I asked him what he thought we were to do, “Let us go on,” was the reply. While we were sitting together, eating a royal dish of meat—paunch cooked with fat, not invitingly clean, but such as travellers get accustomed to—the men who had been sent to ascertain the state of the country arrived. Their intelligence at once settled the point as to our advance. Water was not to be had for oxen until the fourth day, and then only amongst the Tsétsé. We talked and reasoned long on the subject, till I asked the chief what he thought was best to be done. He replied, “I am here to serve you; you must say what you wish, and I shall do it or order it.” The idea of sending men with Livingston's goods at that moment struck me, on which I inquired how far it was to Linyanti; and if

messengers were sent, when would they return ; or, if I were to go on foot, how long should I be absent ? "Twenty or thirty days" was the reply ; and if to the Barotse country, where Sekeletu might be, it would be a much longer time. I rose, and said, "I must think alone," and I should tell him the result of my cogitations. I soon after received the same testimony from William, and another individual upon whose word I could rely ; for I knew well that if Moselekatse said Linyanti was just three steps on the other side of the moon, all his people would say so too. I returned to Moselekatse and proposed to go on foot if he would give me a certain number of his men. To this he would on no account agree ; and declared that if I went he would go too, and would be carried when he could no longer walk. I then made the proposal that, if he would give me men sufficient to carry all Livingston's goods and papers to Linyanti, I should divide them into packages such as they could manage. To this he promptly agreed, and the next moment ordered a man to make a selection of individuals best acquainted with the country. The whole day was employed in making arrangements, and orders were given for twenty men and an officer to be in readiness. There were seventeen packages. The men, after hearing my instructions, repeated and re-peaked them, placed the bags, boxes, &c., some on their heads, others on their shoulders, and, taking their shields and spears, marched off. They were well supplied with food to enable them to pass through perhaps as wild and desolate a region as can well be found ; to go through forests, over mountains and morasses to the country of those who are their enemies. No persons of any tribe with which I am acquainted would have dared to attempt such a thing. It is more than I had anticipated. Having thus done all in my power to supply the wants of Livingston, who doubtless will find all most acceptable should he be spared to receive them, I began to think how I could make the best of my time in the company of Moselekatse, who had given such unmistakeable proofs of his willingness to serve me. On the departure of the men, I turned to him and said, "How happy and how thankful I now feel ! for with one word you have rolled off the big stone which lay on my heart." This remark made him smile and talk with unwonted cheerfulness. We soon inyoked and returned about 12 m. by the way we came. He remained with me at my waggon most of the evening, which afforded the opportunity of talking to him on the all-important subject of religion. He had heard me say that, but for the desire I felt to show him how grateful I was for his kindness, I should prefer taking a direct course homewards, instead of returning to Matlokotloko, but that now I should return with him thither with all my heart. He remarked that he wished to show me still more kindness. I replied that the greatest kind-

ness he could now show was to allow me to deliver to him and his people the message of God, which was the great object I had in view in my present journey ; that if he consented to this, I should desire nothing else. On hearing this he appeared thoughtful, stood up, and walked off to another part of the encampment.

September 15.—Yesterday we came by a much better and shorter way than that by which we went ; halted in the evening at a very beautiful spot on the banks of the Kame. It was considerably below where we first crossed, and at the lower end of a long and deep pool, formed by a barrier of black basalt, of which the foundation of the country appears to be composed. Here more sea-cows were shot to-day, but at such a distance from the waggons that it made the day's hunt one of some labour. We had once and again to pass through the tracks of lions, which, however, did not seem inclined to trouble us, and we were still less inclined to disturb them, as there was room enough in that part of the world for us both. Two of the sea-cows seemed to be of a very great age. There were crocodiles at no great distance below our waggons, but they retired instead of approaching towards us.

September 17. (Sabbath.)—The master of ceremonies was half inclined to proceed yesterday ; but from the state of my oxen, and the extreme heat of the day, I preferred remaining where we were. Though we had ample shade under the fine spreading Mopane trees, every one felt as if in an oven. To-day was still worse. As my waggon was, as usual, in the centre of the camp, amidst the babblings of nearly three hundred men and more than thirty women, all heathens of the first order, there was nothing to remind one of the sanctity of the day. No hush from earthly toil, no sound of church-going bell. After breakfast I directed my men to follow me to the shadow of some umbrageous trees, in the bed of the river, at a suitable distance from the noisy camp, where we might have our devotions undisturbed.

September 21.—After riding a short distance this morning, we halted at a town where the people, especially the women, appeared frantic with joy. They as usual came out with dance and song, just as Orientals do still. These are the congratulations of the women alone. The men that I have seen have their war-song, and dance apart. I never saw the sexes mingle as in Europe, nor anything like polkas, which would no doubt look rather barbarous in the eyes of the Matebele. Their songs must be sometimes extemporaneous, as I have heard my own name, and that of the Kuruman, repeated in their effusions, when they could not have had an hour's warning of my approach. During our short stay I walked through the town, which forms a circle, enclosing a large cattle-fold, like all Matebele towns. I observed some beautiful Palma Christi trees growing among the houses, affording a fine

shade. Moselekatse came and sat with me in the fore chest of my waggon. I told him I had just been visiting the chief man of the town, who was ill. As I knew this was nothing in his way, I added that I always felt happy in going to see sick people. While we were yet talking, the old chief, who was almost entirely lame in his left side, approached with apparently great pain, assisted by a long stick, and with a man behind him. He was tall, and had once been a strong man. On sitting down before the waggon, which required a painful effort, he raised his eye to Moselekatse, and shed a flood of tears. He sobbed and wept like one who had the tenderest of hearts. It was some time before he could repress his feelings so as to give expression to the pleasure he felt on seeing his sovereign, in whose service he had fought many a battle. Pointing to his paralyzed limbs, and looking up with adoration and cheeks wet with tears, and placing his hands on his heart, he said, "Though my body can no more fight the battles of the King of Kings, lion son of Machobane, this heart is still the same." Moselekatse looked at him attentively, and addressed him with considerable feeling. I observed that I liked to see such a manifestation of affection, and added, "That man evidently loves you with his whole heart, just in the same way we ought to love God."

September 23.—Yesterday I reached Babampeng, a town a short distance from Matlokotloko, and having sent a note immediately to Mr. Edwards, was glad to see him, waggon and all, after a few hours' ride. To-day I was engaged in making some arrangements in my waggon, and Moselekatse, fearing that I was making ready for my homeward journey, came, with some concern, telling me not to think of returning for some time, as he had sent for ivory to make purchases from Mr. Edwards, and as he had waited for me, I must wait for him. He also reminded me of what he little thought it was impossible for me to forget, that I must preach to his people. He doubtless hopes that this favour will go a great way in prolonging my stay among the Matebele. To-day the thermometer 94° in the coolest shade we could find, and 84° at bed-time.

October 1.—I had suggested on the preceding day the propriety of going over to Matlokotloko, and stopping there the remainder of the time I had to stay. When he heard this, he thought it was a step towards my departure for home, and said, "Do not think of going yet; you must preach the Word of God to my people, and you know how they like to hear you." I replied, that though I was gratified beyond measure at having had the opportunity, and felt deeply thankful for his kindness and for the trouble he had taken in the affair of Dr. Livingston, yet the season compelled me to hasten my departure in eight days; that

he knew that if the rains commenced as usual, I should have to walk home, and leave my waggon in the country ; that he also saw, that owing to the bad pasture my oxen were very poor, and if rains fell they would die. I concluded by remarking, that as he called me both father and mother, he must allow me to rule for once.

October 2.—Last night Moselekatse sat late at my fire, and would have sat later, but a thunderstorm drove each to his waggon. The shiver produced by a cold wind after a burning hot day has given me a severe cold. Moselekatse told some of his chief men that he would make rain and fill the rivers, and I should be obliged to remain. He saw it was cloudy and sultry, and thought the time favourable for making a display of his power, about which, probably, he is beginning to have his suspicions. However this may be, the people have their thoughts on the subject ; for one of them whom he addressed told me that they now know, from what I had said, that he could not make rain ; adding, “ It is the moon in which rains generally commence, and if they do come, your waggons will sink everywhere.” After Moselekatse had bartered a quantity of ivory with Mr. Edwards, we all inyoked, when he as usual took possession of his old berth, and appeared unusually cheerful. Before reaching the town the men struck up a fine air or march, which they sang with great enthusiasm till we entered the fold. Other martial airs were then sung, in which Moselekatse joined. This is the first thing of the kind since my arrival. There has been nothing of the gala days I was wont to see, because of the king’s indisposition.

October 5.—These two last days I have been so feverish and hoarse as to be unable to hold Divine service, but had much conversation with Moselekatse. He sent a present of ivory, which he requested me to give to Mrs. Moffat as a gift from him to her, to whom he said he always felt grateful for having sent him presents of clothing and other articles long ago, which he greatly valued.

Moselekatse to-day, on calling me into his premises, showed me some ivory, and said, “ That is for you ; it is my present to you. I intended to have given you more, but it has not arrived.” Observing me look like one taken by surprise, he continued, “ I know you have not come for such things ; but I give them as a token of the pleasure I have felt in your visit. I cannot forget you, and I wish you to remember me.” I thanked him for his present ; but his offer of cattle I begged to decline.

October 9.—Having got all ready, Moselekatse ordered an escort of men to conduct us as far as the Shashe river (150 miles distant), and another half-dozen of men were to accompany me till they were able to return with the report that my cough had left me. He ordered out two large elephant cow-tusks and one bull-tusk, a present for my men. Having gone out with us beyond the town,

he, apparently with great reluctance, stretched out his hand, and, taking mine, said with great emphasis, "May God take care of you on the road, and bring you safe to the Kuruman and to Ma-Mary, and tell her how glad I am that I have seen you." Having made a fair start, we proceeded to the Mohutse river, about 16 miles. Troi, a Griqua woman, having gone to bid farewell to her friends, overtook us soon after leaving.

October 25.—To-day we crossed the Shashe river, not of water, but of sand. We came by a more westerly road, altogether better and shorter than the one by which we went. Moselekatse, it appears, had given orders that our wants should be abundantly supplied, which orders were particularly attended to as far as Mahuku's village, where we first met one of the Matebele. Mr. Edwards also occasionally supplied us with game. Here our escort returned, and, in parting with us, exhibited as much feeling as if they had been near and dear relations.

Having left the Banguaketse on the 27th November, I spent the Sabbath among the Barolongs of Nyesa, an out-station of the French missionary at Motito, and arrived at Kuruman on the 8th December, with a thankful heart to the God of all my mercies. In the preceding pages it will be seen how far I succeeded in the objects I had in view when I undertook the journey. Although my health will never be what it has been, it has, with the exception of the affection in the head, been greatly improved.

I have just now learned, with thankfulness, that Livingston had, with extraordinary perseverance, reached St. Paul de Loanda, and was to return to Linyanti. It affords me no little gratification to see that I was directed by a wisdom, far other than that of man, in what I was able to accomplish on his account. If he be spared to return to Linyanti, he will have the satisfaction of receiving supplies for the outer, as well as the inner man.

As to whether the countries through which I have passed are likely soon to become fields for missionary operation, I am anything but sanguine. Of the willingness of the natives themselves to receive instruction no doubt need be entertained; but at present the prospect is anything but encouraging. Past events show to a demonstration that between the natives and the Trans-Vaal Boers there can be no peace, until the former, as far as they can be reached, shall become the vassals of the latter, whose transactions have hitherto been characterised by a deep-rooted enmity to all missionary operations. To me the case appears more hopeless than ever, since the inhabitants of the Sovereignty, or Free State, have with heart and hand espoused the cause of the Trans-Vaal Republic, and are lending their aid in the work of exterminating the Aborigines. If a road were opened up from Sebetuane's or Moselekatse's country to the E. coast, and permission obtained

there for free intercourse with the interior, a wide field would be opened for missionary enterprise. The Matebele having traded with Englishmen, who came up the Zambesi from the coast in boats, shows what could be done. Between the country of Moselekatse and the Zambesi there is, however, an insuperable barrier to travelling with either oxen or horses, on account of the Tsétse, so often referred to in these pages, and described by Livingston in his former journeys. They commence s. of the Limpopo river, run n. till near the Zambesi, and then stretch along, between that and the country which I traversed towards the country of Sebe-tuane. The Makalaka, Bakurutse, Mashona, Bacuabi, Masuase, Batonga, and other tribes, with whom I came into contact among the Matebele, did not appear to exhibit anything very savage in their disposition. It is the character of the Matebelan warfare, and the nature of their government, that make them a terror to the surrounding tribes. Nothing remains but to seek to reach the interior tribes by the e. or w. coast, and any missionary who has witnessed the deteriorating influence of a juxtaposition with the civilized communities would a thousand times prefer isolation, notwithstanding the difficulties it would involve in obtaining supplies. The most part of Moselekatse's country I should suppose to be healthy, especially the higher portion of it, principally of granite foundation. That the fever prevails in the more northern portions, especially in wet seasons, there is no doubt; but not with the virulence witnessed by Livingston farther to the n.w. On the whole the country is beautiful, and would present a rich treat to the geologist, as well as to the botanist—but how much more to the Christian missionary, with its numerous inhabitants, living and dying under a twofold tyranny!

Kuruman, May 16th, 1855.

I unfortunately discovered, after leaving home, that my sextant was injured to an extent I could not, in the absence of suitable tools, repair. On this account it was impossible for me to fix the latitude of any place, which I was exceedingly anxious to have done. I had thus no alternative but to take *bearings*, and lay down my course *by compass*. Even this was very difficult to accomplish with anything like precision, the country over which I traversed being either covered with forest, or presenting one labyrinth of mountains and hills. I had, therefore, often to have recourse to the direction pointed out by the natives, who are in general wonderfully correct. I drew out my course per compass, and distance travelled each day, or from one halting-place to another, with the course of the rivers. I then took the outline of Dr. Livingston's map south of the Zambesi, and laid down my route; but the distance between that river and the spot I reached does not agree, though the natives pointed to the Ngami Lake, w. by w.s.w. from the point from which I returned. In all probability the Botlele, or Masoë River, pointed out as falling into the Zambesi, and into which (the Masoë) the Nata, Kame, and other rivers run, joins the Zambesi lower down than the sketch I made from information given by individuals who visited that

quarter while I was in the country. It is impossible for me to speak with any degree of certainty; but from the measurements I took with the theodolite, and bearings, I should suspect that the Bamanguato, or Bakaa Hills, are laid down rather far to the north in Arrowsmith's map. Neither does the course of the Limpopo River, as laid down, agree with native testimony. I shall take the liberty of sending both sketches along with the Journal, to give you some idea of the country traversed. The sketches only commence at the Bamanguato town.

X.—Notes on the Geography of Central Africa, from the Researches of Livingston, Monteiro, Graça, and others.

By JAMES MACQUEEN, Esq., F.R.G.S.

Read, December 10, 1855.

THE important and repeated journeys of our Medallist, the Rev. Dr. Livingston, of the London Missionary Society, in Southern Central Africa, have, as regards all that great and interesting portion of it, laid open in a generally correct form a large extent of Africa, which was only known to Europeans by uncertain and vague reports. The results of these laborious journeys have been of vast importance to Africa in particular, and to geographical knowledge in general. Having so many important points, and correctly fixed, it enables us to fix with tolerable accuracy several other places in Southern Central Africa of equal, if not of greater value to the world.

To no one in modern times have this country and the world been more indebted for geographical knowledge and researches than to Dr. Livingston. His labours and dangers have been great. They have been voluntarily undertaken, and have cost no country, and more especially this country, anything; so different from the researches and labours of others. But it is to be hoped that this great country will not long allow him to go without a proper reward.

His journals, and the delineation of his journeys, are already before the world. These speak for themselves, and require no further elucidation here. They are, in their leading features, best pointed out by a reference to and inspection of the map accompanying this. It is to connect these with the generally correct information obtained from the journeys and labours of other African travellers that is my present object. To do this, it is necessary to glance generally, and as shortly as possible, at the information that has been obtained by the travellers after-mentioned, but little known to the public in general, regarding the more eastern and central parts of Africa. The Society, as we proceed, will perceive by a reference to the map, the variety and importance of these, and how, when one part is correctly fixed, it invariably leads